

On 5 May Mrs. Ganguli, Mr. Holmes and I were at Pindwala jheel near Najafgarh when we saw the White-winged Black Tern (*Chlidonias leucoptera*) in the company of Whiskered Terns (*C. hybrida*). This Tern is a winter straggler which Ripley says has been recorded from Calcutta, Tripura, East Pakistan, South Andamans, Ceylon, Burma, Bombay and Saurashtra.

A few years ago Dr. Sálím Ali raised the possibility that some herons we saw at Shamaspur jheel, west of Najafgarh, might be the Great White-bellied Heron (*Ardea insignis*), which has a range from Nepal and Sikkim terai eastwards to Assam, East Pakistan, North Burma and Arakan. This year Mrs. Ganguli, Mr. Holmes and I saw several of these herons again at Shamaspur, and from the bright white of the breast and belly and the distinctly larger size than the Grey Heron (*A. cinerea*), which was also to be seen, we concluded that they were almost certainly *A. insignis*.

27 PRITHVIRAJ ROAD,
NEW DELHI,
July 9, 1968.

PETER JACKSON

[The record of the Terek Sandpiper, largely a littoral species in India, is particularly interesting. It has been supposed to be a purely coastal migrant along the western and eastern seaboard of the Peninsula, and until quite recently had evidently not been met with far inland. The above record, and that of one netted and ringed in Bharatpur, Rajasthan, in October 1966 suggest that odd birds may now and again get mixed up with migrating flocks of other small waders and get carried along with them overland. Birdwatchers will please note to examine inland flocks of stints and spotted sandpipers more critically, especially the early arrivals and late departures. Whether this is an occasional occurrence or a more or less regular happening, but so far overlooked, needs to be established—Eds.]

16. SOME NEW BIRD RECORDS FOR NEPAL

While going through the manuscript notes on birds collected in Nepal by the late Lt.-Col. F. M. Bailey, British Envoy Extraordinary from 1935 to 1938, I found records of examples comprising several species previously unreported from Nepal. Since the publication of the instalment of 'The birds of Nepal' series in which those notes have been fully utilized (see Biswas, 1963, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 60:388, note), will take some more time, it is thought worthwhile

to publish the new records in the mean time. Numbers as in Ripley's SYNOPSIS, 1961.

58. **Dupetor flavicollis flavicollis** (Latham). Black Bittern.

WESTERN NEPAL : TARAI : Kanchanpur dist., Bilauri : 1 ♂ (5 Feb. 1937).

The Black Bittern is already known as resident in the Indian territories adjacent to Nepal.

119. **Mergus albellus** Linnaeus. Smew.

WESTERN NEPAL : TARAI : Kanchanpur dist., Bilauri : 1 ♀ (22 Jan. 1937).

Lt.-Col. Bailey observed several Smews in mixed flocks of teals and pintails on a lake at Bilauri.

The Smew is a sparse winter visitor to both eastern and western Uttar Pradesh, not far from western Nepal.

329. **Rallus striatus albiventer** Swainson. Bluebreasted Banded Rail.

EASTERN NEPAL : TARAI : Morang dist., Haraincha : 1 ♂ (16 Feb. 1938).

This rail is already known as resident in the Indian territories adjacent to Nepal.

1543. **Locustella certhiola rubescens** Blyth. Eastern Grasshopper Warbler.

EASTERN NEPAL : TARAI : Morang dist., Kosi River : 1 ♂ (12 Feb. 1937).

1544. **Locustella lanceolata** (Temminck). Streaked Grasshopper Warbler.

EASTERN NEPAL : TARAI : Morang dist., San Pakwa : 1 ♂ (23 Feb. 1938).

The specimen was found 'in tall marsh grass'.

Both these grasshopper warblers are known as regular winter visitors in the plains of northern Bengal, not far from Morang district of Nepal.

1581. **Phylloscopus griseolus** Blyth. Olivaceous Leaf Warbler.

CENTRAL NEPAL : NEPAL VALLEY : Kathmandu (c. 1372 m.) : 1 ♂ (13 Apr. 1938).

This leaf warbler has earlier been recorded on passage in the Kumaon Himalaya (Mussoorie and Almora in Uttar Pradesh) in March, April and October.

From the notes it is further found that he had also collected a female Greyheaded Lapwing, *Vanellus cinereus* (Blyth), 'in a fallow rice field' at Gauchar, Kathmandu, Nepal Valley, on 6 April 1937, and a female Chinese Bush Warbler, *Bradypterus t. tacsanowskii* (Swinhoe), 'in very thick forest' at San Pakwa, Morang district,

eastern Nepal tarai, on 23 February 1938. These two species have, however, been already recorded for Nepal by Fleming and Traylor (1964, *Fieldiana, Zool.*, 35:519, 541) on the basis of collections made by Mrs. Proud in 1959 and Dr. Fleming in 1961.

CALCUTTA,
June 17, 1968.

BISWAMOY BISWAS

17. RECOVERY OF RINGED BIRDS

Ring No. and species	Date and place of ringing	Date and place of recovery	Remarks
B-4633 <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> ♂	26.10.1967. Bharatpur, Rajasthan (c. 27° 13' N., 77° 32' E.).	Mid. Dec. 1967. Moga Ferozepur Dist., Punjab. (c. 30° 58' N., 74° 37' E.)	Reported by Cadet A. S. Gill
AB-15004 <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> ♀	24.10.1967. do.	10.1.1968. Kasrak village, Katra P.O., Shah-jahanpur Dist., U.P. (c. 28° 2' N., 79° 40' E.)	Reported by Harbax Singh D.S.P., Shah, jahanpur U.P.
C-4527 <i>Anas crecca</i> ♀	1.12.1967. do.	15.12.1967. Agra, Bich-puri Station (c. 26° 45' N., 77° 26' E.)	Reported by Trilokpal Singh
B-16096 <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> o ?	31.3.1967. Mitpukur, 24 Parganas Dist., 16 km. east of Calcutta. (c. 22° 34' N., 88° 22' E.)	5.5.1967. Yakut A.S.S.R., near Nyurba (c. 63° 20' N., 118° 21' E.)	Reported by Bird Ringing Centre, Moscow, U.S.S.R.
C-4409 <i>Anas crecca</i> ♀	30.11.1967. Bharatpur, Rajasthan (c. 27° 13' N., 77° 32' E.)	11.2.1968. Gurdaspur Dist., N. Punjab (c. 32° 3' N., 75° 25' E.)	Reported by A. S. Sooch, Pharmacology Dept., Medical College, Amritsar
F-2369 <i>Anas clypeata</i> o ?	20.11.1967. do.	3.2.1968. Near River Sutlej, Amritsar Dist. (c. 31° 10' N., 74° 30' E.)	Reported by Kashmir Singh, Amritsar
C-4288 <i>Anas crecca</i> ♀	24.11.1967. do.	24.2.1968. Gorakhpur, U.P. (c. 26° 45' N., 83° 22' E.)	Reported by Mohan Singh, Gorakhpur
B-1602 <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> o ?	3.10.1965. do.	20.2.1968. Hasanpur Village, Kanayta, Moradabad Dist. (c. 28° 44' N., 78° 17' E.)	Reported by Fazal Shah Khan, Hasanpur